



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/609,147  
Confirmation No. : 6705  
Filing Date : June 27, 2003  
Examiner : Paul V. Ward  
Group Art Unit : 1623  
Applicants : Knegt, et al.  
For : CASPASE INHIBITORS AND USES THEREOF

September 5, 2006  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

Following an October 5, 2005 Final Office Action, applicants submitted a Notice of Appeal on April 5, 2006 in the above-identified application. Applicants received an Advisory Action on April 20, 2006. Applicants have submitted herewith a request for a three-month extension of time to file an Appeal Brief. The time for submitting an Appeal Brief is, therefore, up to and including September 5, 2006. In lieu of an Appeal Brief, applicants are submitting herewith a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, this amendment is timely filed.

Amendments to the claims begin at page 2 of this reply.

Remarks begin at page 8 of this reply.